



The image features a stylized map of Maryland. The map is filled with a solid red color, while the areas outside its borders are yellow. A magnifying glass with a white handle and frame is positioned over the right side of the map, focusing on the state flag. The flag is divided into four quadrants: the top-left and bottom-right are black and yellow diagonal stripes, while the top-right and bottom-left are white with a red cross and a red three-lobed anchor. The text 'STATE' is written in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters, and 'STAT' is written in yellow, bold, sans-serif capital letters, both positioned to the left of the magnifying glass.

**STATE
STAT**

MARYLAND

Overall Progress



PROGRESSING ►

Total Annual Skills Training Completions

FY 2012

42,850
Completions

FY 2009

36,513
Completions

17.4% INCREASE ▲

Credit-Based Enrollments at Community Colleges

FY 2013

145,085
Enrollments

FY 2009

128,093
Enrollments

13.3% INCREASE ▲

Associate's Degrees Awarded by Community Colleges

FY 2012

13,852
Degrees

FY 2009

10,371
Degrees

33.6% INCREASE ▲

This site was last updated on January 22nd, 2014.

FEDERAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR EARN PARTNERSHIPS

Program Name	Description	Key Dates
<u>Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training Initiative (TAACCT)</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Created by the ARRA, the TAACCT is a four-year, \$2 B grant program providing funding to community colleges and universities to deliver education and career training programs that can be completed in 2 years or less Three rounds of funding have been completed to date (FY11-FY13) with the third round (FY13) of grants awarded in September 2013 NOTE: 16 of the 29 EARN Planning Grant partnerships include at least one community college 	<p>The 4th and final round of funding for TAACCT grants has yet to be announced.</p> <p>The solicitation for the third round of grants was released in April 2013.</p>
<u>Ready to Work Initiative</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approximately \$150 M to support partnerships between employers, non-profits and the public workforce system to help long-term unemployed individuals train for and secure middle and high-skill jobs typically filled by H-1B visa foreign workers (NOTE: H-1B workers have a Bachelor's degree or comparable experience and fill middle and high-skill jobs) Partnerships must include at least 3 employers or an industry association with at least 3 employer members USDOL plans to fund approx.. 20-30 grants ranging from \$3-\$10 M 	<p>Issue Date: Feb 19, 2014</p> <p>Closing Date: June 19, 2014</p>

FEDERAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR EARN PARTNERSHIPS

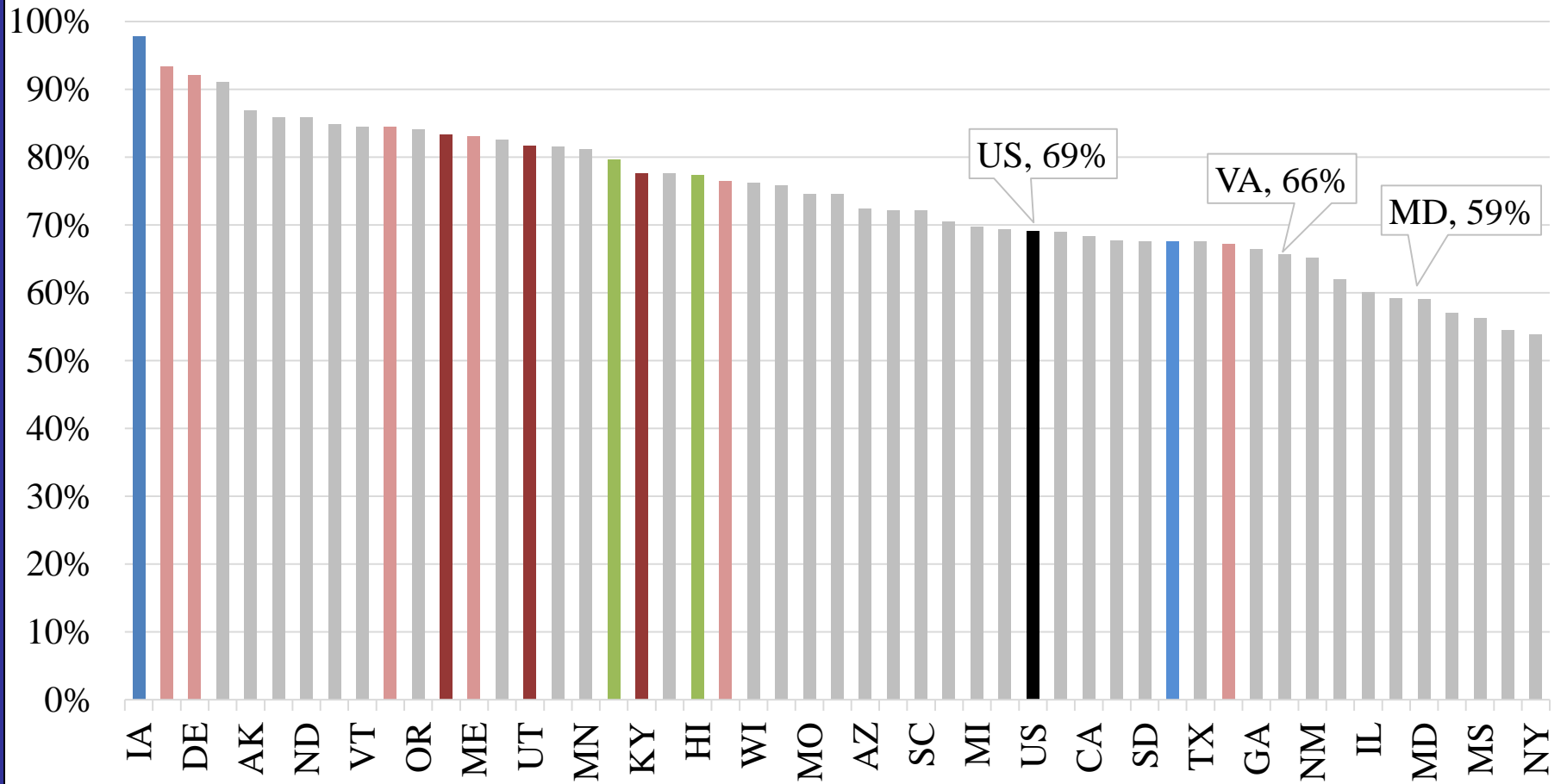
Program Name	Description	Key Dates
<u>YouthBuild Initiative</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$73 M in grant funds to organizations providing education, occupational skills training and employment services to disadvantaged youth • USDOL hopes to fund approx.. 75 projects serving nearly 5,000 youth 	<p>Issue Date: Feb 18, 2014</p> <p>Closing Date: April 22, 2014</p>
<u>Investing in Manufacturing Communities Partnership (Phase 2)</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In December 2013, the Obama Administration launched a national competition to designate “manufacturing communities”. • Successful applicants will submit economic development plans to transform their community into a globally-competitive manufacturing hub. • Up to 12 communities will be awarded up to \$1.3 B and receive assistance from 10 federal agencies • NOTE: 44 communities received \$7 M in Planning Grants (\$200,000 each) during Phase 1 of the Partnership. Competition in Phase 2 is not contingent on having been selected in Phase 1. No Maryland communities were selected for a Planning Grants. 	<p>Issue Date: Dec 2013</p> <p>Closing Date: April 14, 2014</p>

CONCERNS WITH THE EARN CONNECT WEBSITE

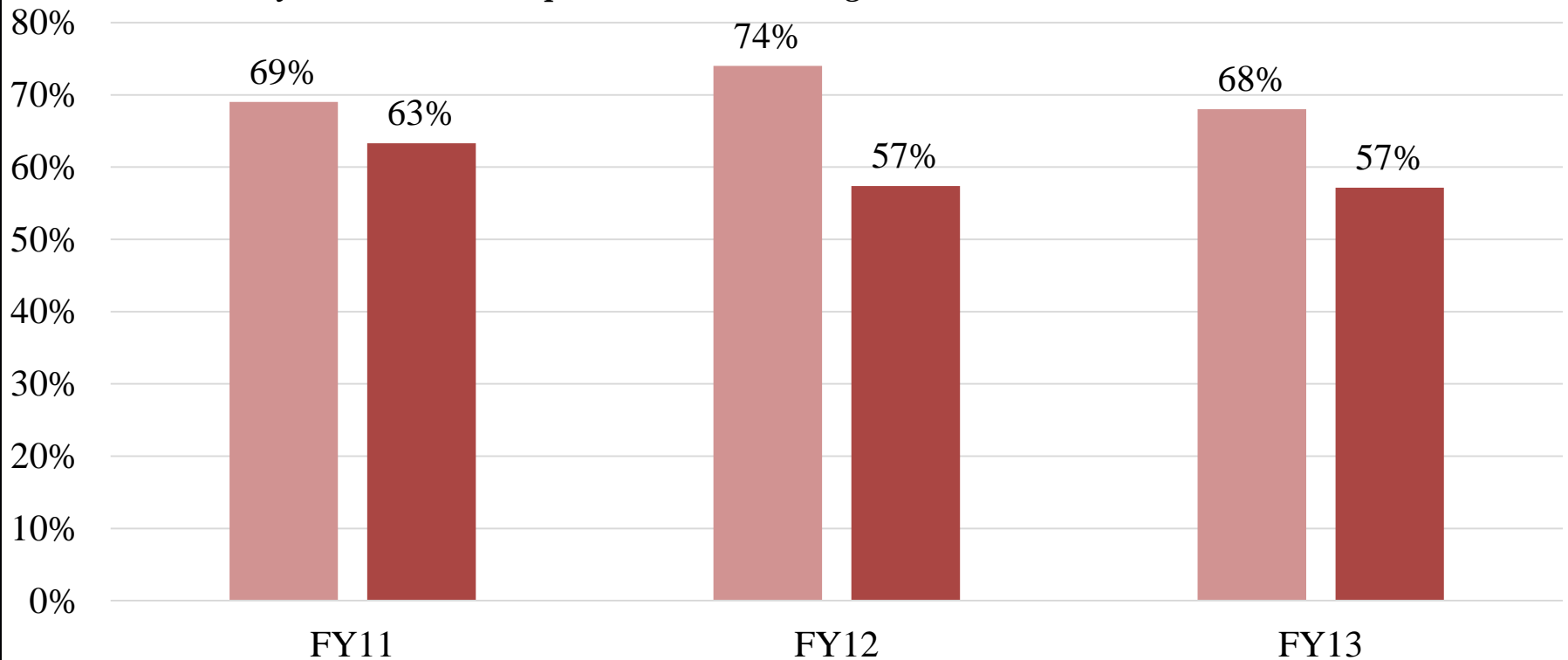
Concern	Resolution
Link to EARN Connect not listed on DLLR's EARN site	Link added Feb. 10 th . Link takes the user to another DLLR page with a link to the actual EARN MD Connect site at the bottom. StateStat suggestion: Link directly from the DLLR EARN page to the EARN Connect page.
DLLR's EARN site is cluttered and not-user friendly	<p>DLLR is working with their webmaster to keep the page updated. The page remains confusing and text heavy. StateStat's suggestions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Create sections (with titles left aligned, in bold) for General Information, Planning Grants, Implementation Grants, EARN Connect, Resources and News and arrange the information on the page accordingly ○ Use 1-2 sentences to explain what is in a link rather than simply including a link. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ex: Explain what resources can found under the "Planning Grant Conference Resources" link Ex: Explain what EARN Connect is and what users can do with the site instead of "Sign Up for Our Exciting Web Portal: EARN MD Connect" ○ Replace the full text of the press release with a link to the release in the News section ○ Left-align all text ○ Put hyperlinks in the traditional blue
Potential users can not view or use any of the EARN Connect site without first creating a profile	Salisbury informed DLLR that providing limited access to the EARN Connect site without creating a profile can be done relatively easily. DLLR suggested LinkedIn as a model- users can view a limited amount of a person's profile without logging in. StateStat supports this suggestion. As of March 4 th no changes to the EARN Connect page have been made.

Maryland's GED Pass Rate 46th Lowest in Nation in 2012; 13 States have Pre-Test Req'ts

Instructional Program; Pre-Test; Pre-Test for Youth Only; Pre-Test & Instruction; No Requirements



Pre-Test Instruction Leads to Higher Pass Rates
Maryland's Grant Recipient Pass Rate is Higher than the Statewide GED Pass Rate



FY2014 Adult Education Funds

Aid to Education Grants (Federal)	Literacy Works Grants (State)	Federal Funds Allocated for GED Prep	Federal Funds Allocated for the National External Diploma Program
\$ 7,469,615	\$ 8,753,622	\$ 485,512	\$ 425,000

Together, the GED and National External Diploma Programs account for 12% of total federal expenditures. Grantees are allowed to use their federal funds (Aid to Education) for any approved WIA purpose. Grantees are not required to use the State funding (Literacy Works) to supplement their GED efforts. Therefore, it is possible that there are those who do not. DLLR is reviewing grantee reports to determine the extent to which grantees are in fact supplementing their GED instructional efforts. This will be a primary focus of monitoring moving forward.

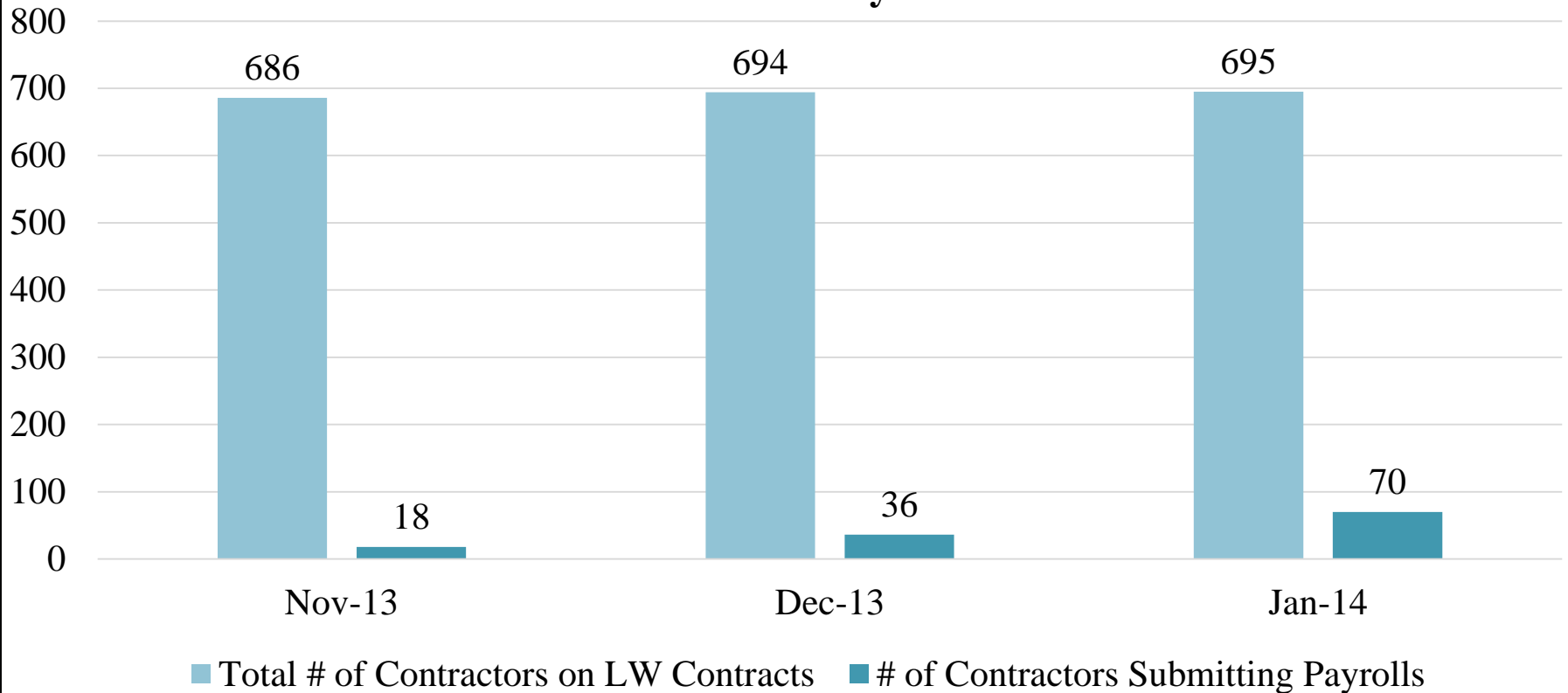
Maryland Living Wage Rates as of September 27, 2013

Tier 1	Montgomery, Prince George's, Howard, Baltimore, Anne Arundel, Baltimore City	\$13.19/hour
Tier 2	Garrett, Allegany, Washington, Frederick, Carroll, Harford, Charles, St. Mary's, Calvert, Cecil, Kent, Queen Anne's, Talbot, Caroline, Dorchester, Wicomico, Somerset, Worcester	\$9.91

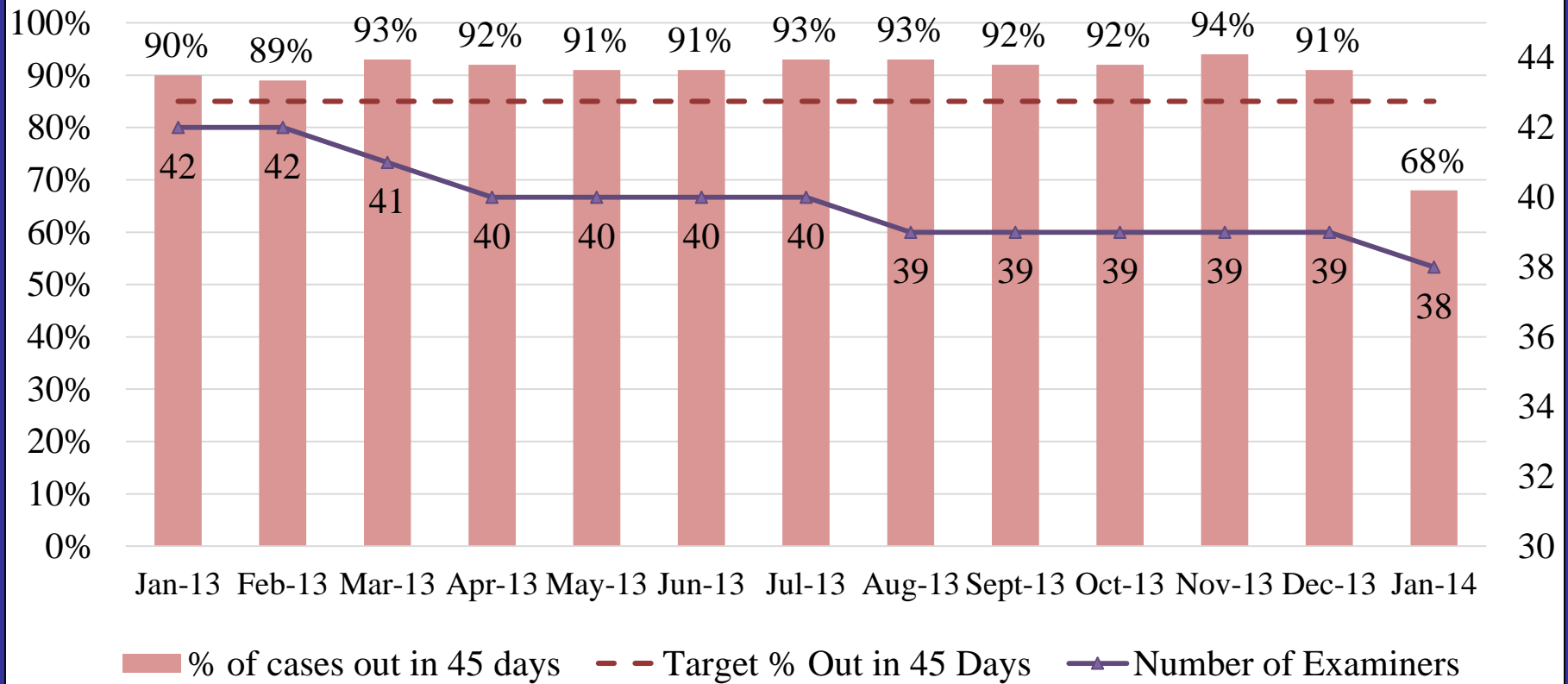
Recommendations to Improve Enforcement of Maryland's Living Wage Law

Policy Recommendation	Status of Recommendation
1. Develop and implement an electronic payroll system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DLLR reported that a system (based on the Prevailing Wage electronic system) could be fully functional in 12-18 months • At this time there is no funding in the budget to develop the system • There is time, however, for DLLR to add funding in the supplemental budget to launch the system.
1. Penalize contracts for late or non-submission of payroll records	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authorizing DLLR to penalize contracts for late or non-submission of payroll records would require a legislative change • DLLR reports that it is too late into Session to propose such a change • Alternatively, DLLR is preparing a plan detailing what they can do to increase payroll submissions within their current authority and resources.
1. Increase uniform contract reporting among all state agencies to ensure DLLR receives all service contracts for which the Living Wage Law applies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DLLR has a call on Friday, March 7th with the Procurement Chiefs from DBM, MDOT and DGS • DLLR is prepared to discuss their plan to roll out a uniform reporting requirement today.

In Jan., Only 10% of Contractors on Living Wage Contracts Submitted Payrolls



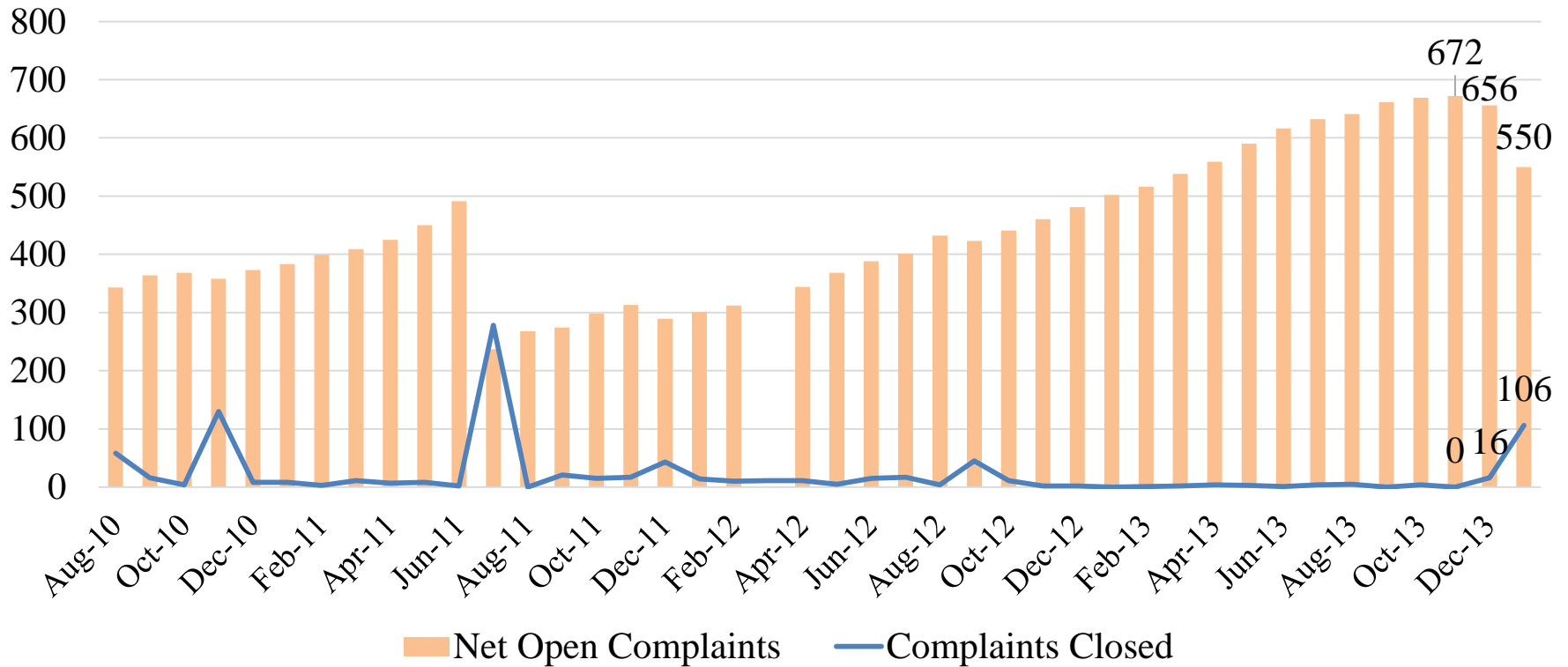
Only 68% of UI Lower Appeals Processed in 45 Days in January First Month Below the 85% Target in Nearly Three Years



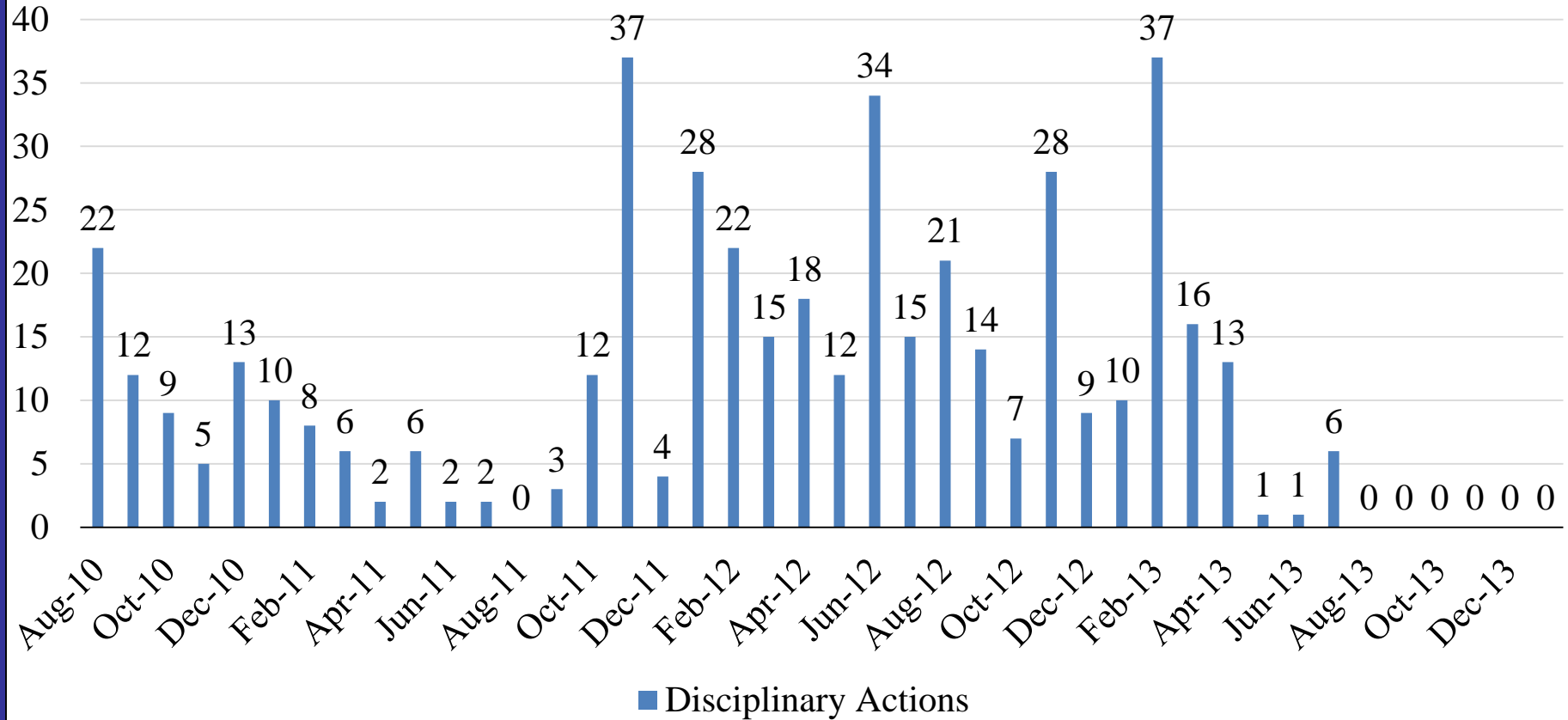
Actual and Projected Complaint Backlog Against Cosmetologists/Barbers

Nov. 2013	Dec. 2013	Jan. 2014	Feb. 2014*	Mar. 2014*	Apr. 2014*
672	656	550	500	350	250

Backlog of Complaints Against Cosmetologists/Barbers 106 Complaints Closed in January

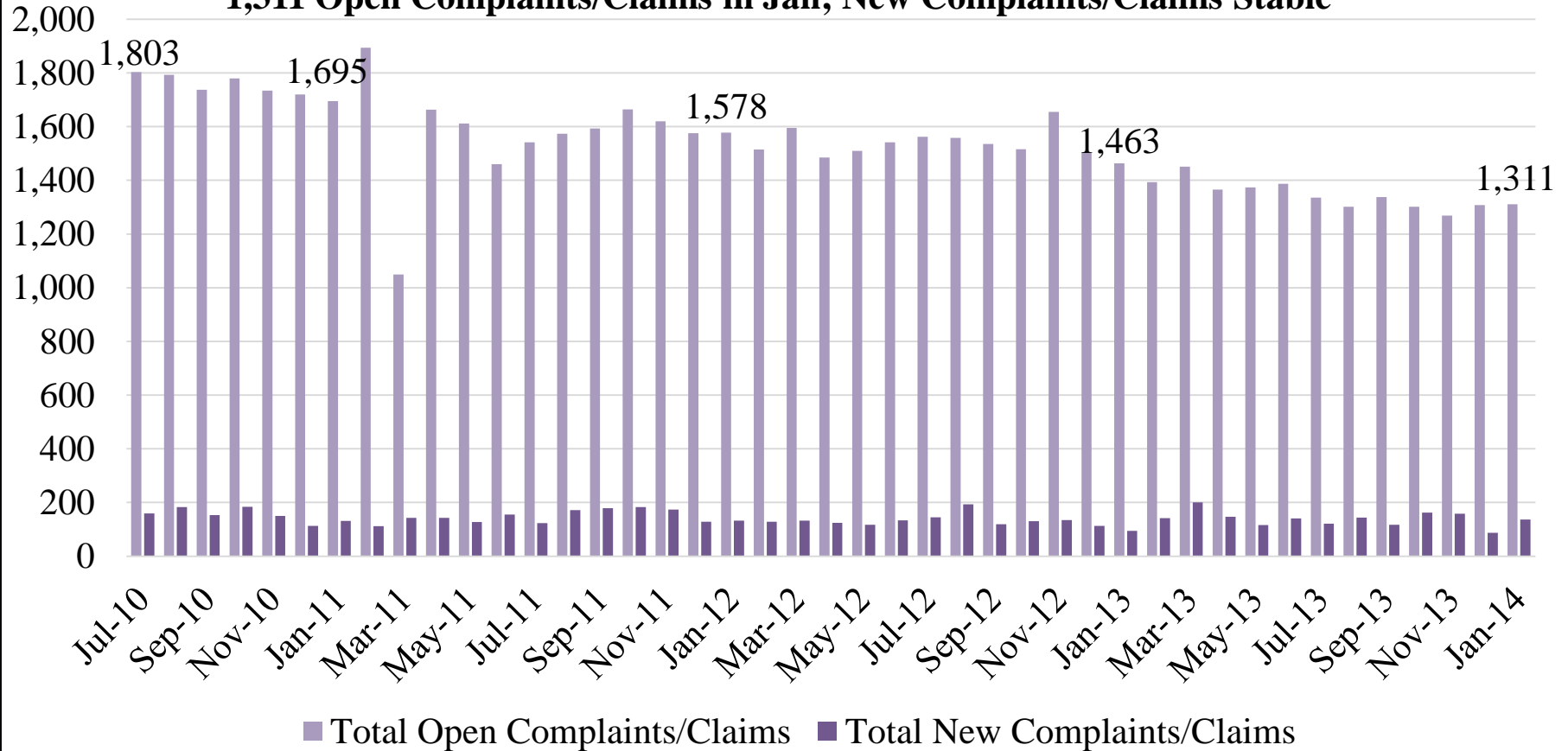


Backlog of Complaints Against Cosmetologists/Barbers
No Disciplinary Actions Taken in Six Months, 131 Complaints Closed

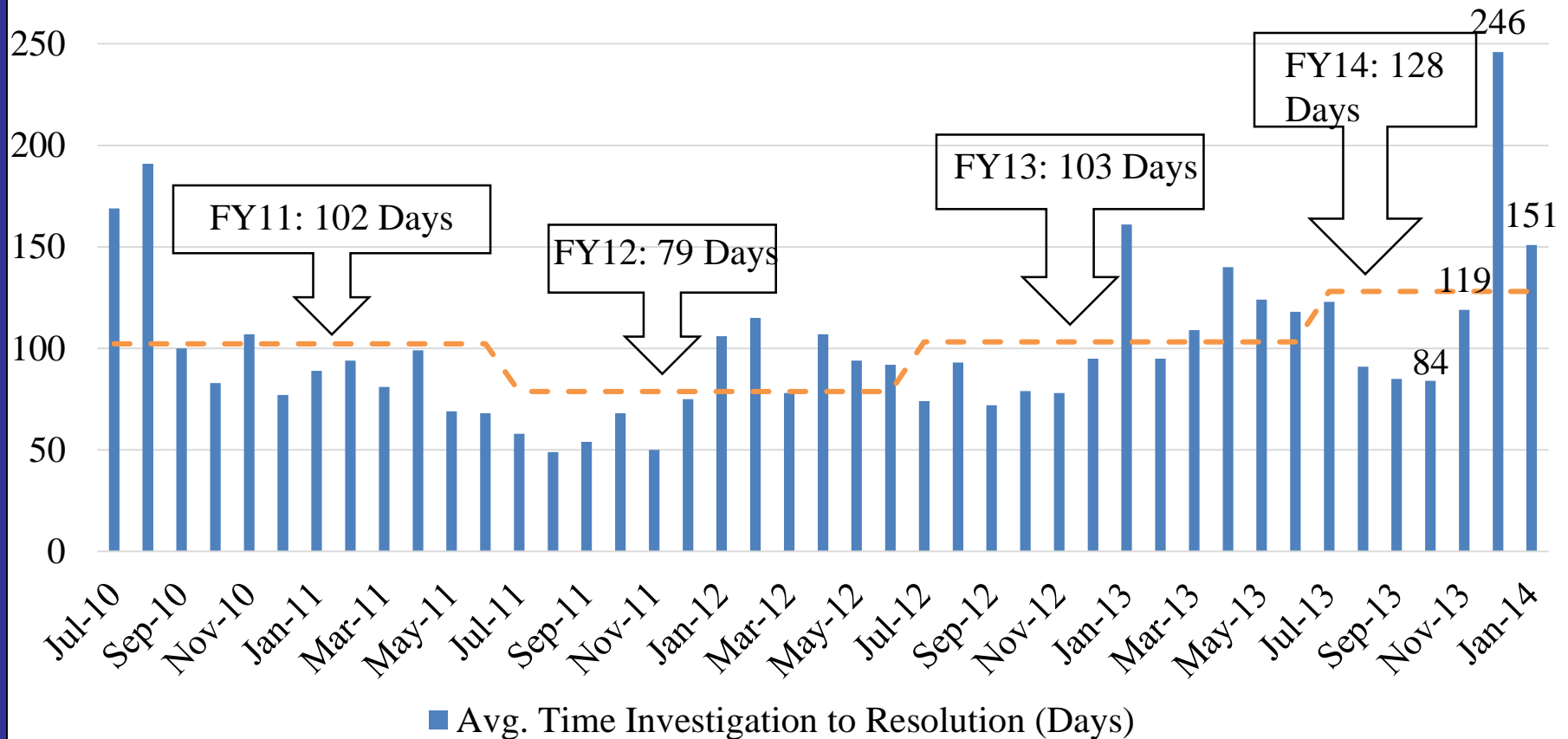


Backlog of Complaints/Claims Against Home Improvement Professionals

1,311 Open Complaints/Claims in Jan; New Complaints/Claims Stable



Backlog of Complaints/Claims Against Home Improvement Professionals
Time from Investigation to Resolution Up to 246 Days in Dec., 151 in Jan.



Backlog of Complaints Against Mechanical Boards
Record 278 Complaints Closed in December, 64 Closed in January
No Investigations Completed Since 2011



PROTECTING CONSUMERS



MARYLAND: 1 of 4 States Regulating
Tax Preparers